

# The Listening Post

## Kentucky Talking Book Library Newsletter



Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Kentucky Talking Book Library

300 Coffee Tree Road Frankfort, KY 40601

1-800-372-2968

Serving Kentucky's Need to Know

---

Number 41

Fall 2005

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Our mailing address will be changing to:

**Kentucky Talking Book Library**

**P O Box 537**

**Frankfort, KY 40602-0537**

**While the change officially takes place effective January 1, 2006, you may start using this address immediately.**

---



### **NFB-Newsline – News at Your Fingertips**

If you haven't tried the NFB-Newsline yet, you may be missing out on a valuable service. Newsline provides recorded versions of both local and national newspapers, accessible by your telephone. This service is

free and is provided by the National Federation for the Blind (NFB).

On February 16, 2005, Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher signed a contract that will provide state funding to support Newsline and add more Kentucky papers. The contract with NFB is the result of House Bill 262 passed by the Kentucky General Assembly during the 2004 session.

Kentucky newspapers include: *The Lexington Herald-Leader*, *The Louisville Courier Journal*, *The Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer*, and *The Bowling Green Daily News*. With 11 daily newspapers, Kentucky has more local newspapers available on NFB-Newsline than any other surrounding state except for Ohio, which has 14.

National publications available include *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today*. Subscribers can choose from today's newspaper, yesterday's newspaper or the Sunday edition and then choose the section or article by using a standard touch-tone telephone. The menu allows the user to change the speed and voice quality. The only technology you need is a touch-tone telephone.

If you are interested in registering for this free service, please contact your librarian at 1-800-372-2968 today. You'll be putting the world at your fingertips.

---



### A Sad Day for Kentucky History

Kentucky's Historian Laureate, Dr. Thomas D. Clark died on June 28, 2005. Dr. Clark was instrumental in the building of the Department for Libraries and Archives, where KTBL is located. The building, at 300 Coffee Tree Road in Frankfort, was dedicated on October 8, 1982. The structure, which houses the state's archives, state library, and talking book library, was named the Clark-Cooper building in honor of Dr. Clark and prominent Hazard banker Vernon Cooper, who was a champion of Kentucky's library system.

By the flip of a coin, Thomas Dionysius Clark intertwined his life and career with the vast history of Kentucky. In 1928, Dr. Clark received graduate scholarships to both the University of Cincinnati and to the University of Kentucky. Kentucky won the coin toss, and the claim to one of the South's greatest historians.

Born in 1903, Dr. Clark was raised on a small cotton farm in the hill country of east-central Mississippi. He hated the common schools of the area, and dropped out during the seventh grade to work at a sawmill. At the insistence of his parents, Dr. Clark returned to school, graduated, then attended the University of Mississippi. After completing his Master's Degree at the University of Kentucky and his Doctorate at Duke University, Dr. Clark returned to Lexington to teach at the University of Kentucky, where he remained for over 70 years.

Dr. Clark, often referred to as the "Dean of Historians", taught at the University of Kentucky from the mid-1930's until his retirement in 1968 and was considered to

be one of the most popular instructors on campus. During his tenure Dr. Clark was head of the history department from 1941 to 1965 and a distinguished professor from 1950 to 1968. Dr. Clark has written over 30 books chronicling Kentucky's history, many of which we have recorded and are listed below.

On March 27, 1990, the Kentucky General Assembly passed a resolution naming Thomas Clark as Kentucky's Historian Laureate for life, the only person in Kentucky's history to receive that honor. Recently, Dr. Clark was an active advocate in lobbying for a Kentucky History Center. The building, dedicated in April, 1999 in downtown Frankfort, houses the Kentucky Historical Society and library. This museum, devoted to the history and people of Kentucky, includes a special room containing temporary exhibits dedicated to Kentucky culture. In July, the history center was re-named the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History just days after Dr. Clark's death. He is survived by his wife and three children.

#### KTBL Recorded Books by Dr. Thomas D. Clark

KY 01094 Pleasant Hill in the Civil War  
KY 01288 Pills, Petticoats, and Plows: The Southern Country Store  
KY 01330 South Since Appomattox  
KY 01659 Greening of the South  
KY 01675 Kentucky  
KY 01700 Bluegrass Cavalcade  
KY 01903 History of Laurel County  
KY 01935 Footloose in Jacksonian America  
KY 02120 Simon Kenton  
KY 01938 Frontiers in Conflict: The Old Southwest 1795-1830 (with John DW Guice)  
KY 02555 People's House: Governor's Mansions of Kentucky  
KY 02328 Voice of the Frontier: John Bradford's Notes on Kentucky (Dr. Clark, Editor)

---

**Thank you for your  
Donations**



Contributions to our program, whether large or small, make a difference to us. Our Descriptive Video collection and children's summer reading program are funded entirely by donations. Donations have also helped us purchase Print/Braille books for our younger patrons. Thank you for your generosity.

Mary C. Logan  
Mary E. McDaniel  
Marie Morris  
Anne P. Kirkpatrick  
William & Mildred Campbell  
Ann Bresler  
Ralph & Reba Cotton  
William Feiler  
James & Judith Cress  
Barbara R. Cowden  
Rita & Howard Stump

In Memory of Rita Hudepohl  
Jean Plunkett Jones

**In Memory of Lou Goss  
Robert & Yorem Meyer  
Elliott & Diane Sadle**

**In Memory of Arthur Adams  
Rebecca Adams**

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, P O Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL. Donations are 100% tax deductible and appreciated by the patrons who use our service.

---

### **Magazine Information**

If you would like to cancel a magazine, or change a subscription, please call Greta at 1-800-372-2968. Do not simply refuse delivery or write on the item and return it. Most magazines are mailed directly from a company called CMLS (Comprehensive Mailing List Service), not from our office. It may take several weeks for them to contact us, and us to contact you. Meanwhile, your service may be interrupted. It is much more efficient to call us.

If you subscribe to *Newsweek* or *Reader's Digest* magazines, please note that you are required to renew your subscription every year. Each January, the American Printing House (APH), the producer of these two magazines, sends a letter asking whether or not you want to continue your subscription. If you fail to complete and return the form to APH, your subscriptions will cease. The letter will also ask for a donation to APH, however, a donation is not required to keep your subscription active. Please do not

send the form to KTBL, as we do not directly circulate these magazines.

---

### **Dates to Remember**



The Talking Book Library will be closed on the following days:

November 11: Veterans Day  
November 24 & 25: Thanksgiving  
December 23 & 26: Christmas  
Dec. 30-Jan. 2: New Year's Day  
January 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

We hold staff meetings once a month. If you call during this time, your call will be forwarded to a voice mail system. Please leave your name and number and a member of our staff will return your call.

---

### **Braille and Large Print Calendars**

Wall calendars for 2006 in large print and Braille formats are available from the American Printing House at a cost of \$7.50 per calendar. You may order one by calling, toll-free, 1-800-223-1839, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

---

### **Back to School**

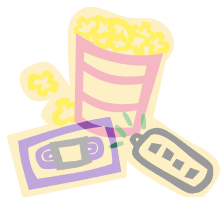


In the good old days it seemed that summer vacation lasted forever. Now-a-days, it's over before it really begins. The kids are already back in school and that means book reports, term papers, and required reading lists.

Whether you're in the fourth grade or your fourth year of college, you'll find many required and recommended

titles available as talking books. Call us when a book is assigned, and we will ship it as soon as possible. Remember supplies are limited and other students across the state may need the same book. Please respect the 30-day loan period and return books as soon as you have finished them.

---



### Descriptive Video Information

Descriptive videos are movies on video that carefully describe the visual elements, which include the action, characters, locations, costumes and sets. There is no interference with the movie's dialogue or sound effects so you can follow all the action. To enjoy these movies, you need a VHS video cassette player and a television. (KTBL does not provide equipment for this service.) We are sorry, but we do not have movies available on DVD format.

If you are interested in this service, please call Greta and she will be happy to explain the service in more detail and send you an application.

Recent additions to our video collection are:

DVS 70674 Finding Neverland PG  
DVS 70668 The Incredibles PG  
DVS 70669 Meet the Fockers PG-13  
DVS 70673 Million Dollar Baby PG-13  
DVS 70670 Phantom of the Opera PG-13  
DVS 70671 Ray PG-13  
DVS 70672 Shark Tale PG

With Halloween coming up, we are including some movie titles for your

“fright-night” entertainment:

DVS 34867 Addams Family PG  
DVS 19718 Ghost PG-13  
DVS 70434 Psycho R  
DVS 40390 Scream R

---

### Good News, Bad News

The good news is we have a new member of the KTBL staff. Leslie Stivers joined our circulation staff August 1<sup>st</sup>.

The bad news is that Leslie is a member of the Air National Guard and was called up to help with hurricane relief efforts in Mississippi.

We are all looking forward to Leslie's return, when he will work to check your books in and out.

---



### Things to Remember

- ✓ KTBL's toll-free phone number is 1-800-372-2968. Our local phone number is 502-564-8300, ext. 276.
- ✓ Please return each book as soon as you finish reading it. Do not loan it to anyone else.
- ✓ Please keep enough book requests on file. If you run out of requests, it will interrupt your service. A list of 15-20 books will last most patrons a couple months. You may need to adjust this number accordingly.
- ✓ If a tape is damaged, place a rubber band around the damaged cassette and put an “x” on the mail card. The post office has requested



that you do not put string or rubber bands around the mailing containers. They get caught in postal equipment.

✓ If you move, please be sure to call us with your new address and phone number. If mail is returned to us marked “undeliverable”, your service may be canceled.

✓ Our staff receives an enormous amount of e-mail. It would help us serve you better if you put “KTBL Patron” in the subject line. Our e-mail addresses are listed at the end of this newsletter.

✓ When you put a tape in the player, please hit the Rewind button and make sure the tape has been rewound. We get many tapes marked as defective when it simply has not been rewound.

✓ If you have a problem with your cassette player, call us before you return it for repair. We may be able to help you solved the problem over the phone. Calling us will ensure faster replacement of your machine.

✓ Please keep all food and drink away from your cassette player. Dirt and liquid can damage them. Use an all-purpose cleaner and a soft cloth to clean the outside of your player.

✓ Please keep food and drink away from Braille books. Braille books are quite expensive and often difficult to replace. If even one volume of a book is damaged, the entire book has to be removed from the collection.

✓ Please do not write or mark on

your tape player. The machines are the property of the United States government and are only on loan to you.

---

## Telephone Notes



✓ When you call KTBL and are connected to voice mail, we are either closed or unable to take your call because we are busy helping other patrons. If you get a voice mail recording, please leave a message. Speak slowly and include your name (spelling the last name) and phone number. Please do not leave lengthy request lists or long messages on the voice mail. Please just state the reason you are calling and we will return your call as soon as possible.

---

## **Kentucky Books**

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a new list of Kentucky Cassette books. Please look over this list and mark the books you are interested in receiving. Please be sure to fill in your name and mailing information on the front of the order form. We had to throw away almost 20 KY book order forms from the last list because there was no name on the form and no way to know who to send the books to.

There will be no Kentucky book list in the winter newsletter. Look for our new survey as we strive to find ways to better serve our patrons.

---

## **Volunteer News**

We would like for you to meet our newest volunteer, Clarence Curtis. Clarence was born in Fleming County, Kentucky and grew up in Maysville. He graduated from Maysville High School in 1958 and joined the U. S. Army in 1960, where he served seven years on active duty.

He was discharged from the Army and entered Cumberland College and graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration. He worked in the retail grocery business and retired after 23 years.

Clarence is easily our most active volunteer coming into the office almost every day. He usually proof-reads the Kentucky recorded books or works on damaged players, but he also helps with magazine and newsletter mailings.

He and his wife, Joan Kidd, from Pine Knot, were married in 1964. They have two sons, James and John and three grandchildren. Clarence and Joan live in Frankfort.



---

**You may contact us by e-mail:**

**Barbara Penegor, Branch Manager and Librarian (A-F)**    [barbara.penegor@ky.gov](mailto:barbara.penegor@ky.gov)

**Lee Logan, Secretary, Talking Book Library**    [lee.logan@ky.gov](mailto:lee.logan@ky.gov)

**Paula Ernsperger, Volunteer Coordinator**    [paula.ernspiker@ky.gov](mailto:paula.ernspiker@ky.gov)

**Wendy Hatfield, Librarian (P-Z)**    [wendy.hatfield@ky.gov](mailto:wendy.hatfield@ky.gov)

**Chris Payne, Librarian (G-O)**    [christine.payne@ky.gov](mailto:christine.payne@ky.gov)

**Greta Wise, Magazine & Video Clerk**    [greta.wise@ky.gov](mailto:greta.wise@ky.gov)